

5 December 1984

>NICARAGUA/CIA>MACNEIL: The House Intelligence Committee decided today >MANUAL>that the CIA manual for Nicaraguan contras broke a 1982 law against U.S. efforts to overthrow the Nicaraguan government. After a 2+-hour closed hearing, the committee said in a statement that the manual showed that the CIA, quote, 'did not have adequate command and control of the entire Nicaraguan covert operation.' The chairman, Democrat Edward Boland of Massachusetts, said that CIA director William Casey was ultimately responsible because he's at the top of the chain of command.

REP. EDWARD BOLAND (D-Mass.): Casey, ultimately, probably would be responsible for it but, ah, on the basis of the fact that the program was poorly managed and run very unprofessionally. On two of the pages of the manual, there's a reference to neutralizing Sandinista officials, on one of the pages, the use of professional criminals, on one of the pages, the use of martyrs, on another page, shooting citizens trying to leave a captured town. I find it incredible, as did all the members of the Intelligence Committee, that no one, that no one in the field and no one at headquarters had ever read the manual.

MACNEIL: The committee's report emphasized that while it found the CIA guilty of negligence, the incident did not reveal an intent to violate the law. <